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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Yasuji HIRAMATSU, et al.

SERIAL NO: 10/009,174

GAU: 3741

FILED: April 21, 2003

EXAMINER:

FOR: CERAMIC BOARD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Applicant(s) wish to disclose the following information.

REFERENCES

- The applicant(s) wish to make of record the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed references are attached, where required, as are either statements of relevancy or any readily available English translations of pertinent portions of any non-English language references.
- A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

RELATED CASES

- Attached is a list of applicant's pending application(s) or issued patent(s) which may be related to the present application. In accordance with discussions on August 4, 2004 with Mr. Nicholas P. Godici, Commissioner for Patents, it is no longer required to submit copies of cited pending applications. A modification of the Rules will be published soon in the Official Gazette. Cited issued patents, if any, are listed on the attached PTO form 1449.
- A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

CERTIFICATION

- Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
- No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

- Please charge any additional fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check or credit card payment is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
Norman F. Oblon

Roland E. Martin
Registration No. 48,082

Customer Number

22850

Tel. (703) 413-3000
Fax. (703) 413-2220
(OSMMN 05/03)



LIST OF RELATED CASES

<u>Docket Number</u>	<u>Serial or Patent Number</u>	<u>Filing or Issue Date</u>	<u>Inventor/ Applicant</u>
216926US90 PCT*	10/009,174	04/21/03	HIRAMATSU, et al.
254480US90 CONT	10/876,665	06/28/04	ITO, et al.
256700US90 CONT	10/901,109	07/29/04	HIRAMATSU, et al.
256356US90 CONT	10/900,113	07/28/04	HIRAMATSU, et al.

*Present Application; listed for information
NFO/wal/amr